ABSOLUTE

GREEN LANTERN

DC

ALL IN

15+ TEEN+ 12

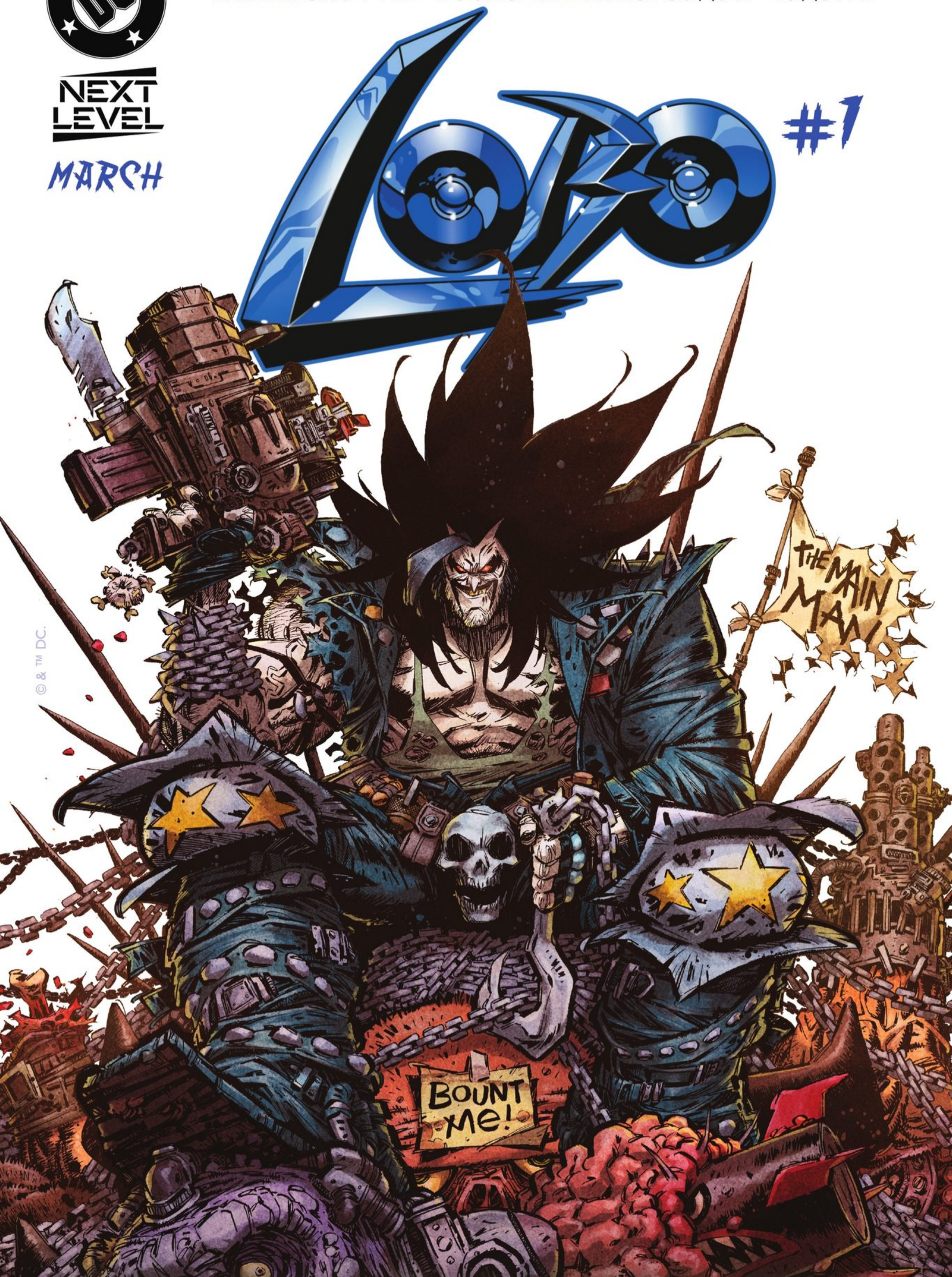
EWING
LINDSAY

FROM THE EISNER-NOMINATED TEAM OF
WRITER SKOTTIE YOUNG AND ARTIST JORGE CORONA

NEXT LEVEL

MARCH

1



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THE MAIN MAN'S BACK, BABY!

HECTOR HAMMOND?

CAN YOU HEAR ME?

I AM THE VOICE OF OA, HECTOR HAMMOND. VOICE OF THE GREEN LANTERN.

I AM THE SECRET HEART WITHIN EVERY STAR.

YOU **MUST** HEAR ME, HECTOR HAMMOND.

HEAR AND HAVE UNDERSTANDING--

WHOEVER'S *TALKING*--

--SHUT THE HELL UP!

N-NOBODY SAID A **WORD,** SIR--

SHUT UP, I SAID!

I'M **BUSY** HERE!

BRAUUR BRRR

"I'M BUSY **KILLING JO MULLEIN!**"

START RUNNING.

WHAT THE ABIN SUR WANTED

AL EWING
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JAHNOY LINDSAY
SID KOTIAN
PRESSY
ARTISTS

LUCAS GATTONI
LETTERER

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ASSISTANT EDITOR

ANDREW MARINO
EDITOR

KATIE KUBERT
GROUP EDITOR

CHRIS CONROY
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

YEARS AGO.

"I'LL BE RIGHT BEHIND YOU."

HUH?

WHAT YOU SAID WHEN I LEFT. "I SWEAR, I'LL BE RIGHT BEHIND YOU."

BUT YOU'RE STILL IN **EVERGREEN.**

WELL... I MEAN, **MOM** MOVED TO FLORIDA. THAT WAS **HER** BIG DREAM, TO GET OUT OF THE **DESERT.**

JACK WAS ALREADY IN **COLORADO**...SO IT WAS JUST ME AND **JIM** IN THAT HOUSE...

...JIM MEETS THIS **GIRL** ONLINE, YADA YADA, SUDDENLY HE'S MOVING TO **ATHENS.**

I SWEAR, THAT WAS ALL IN ONE YEAR. JUST ME LEFT.

SO...YOU **STAYED** BECAUSE EVERYONE ELSE **WENT AWAY?**

THEY FOLLOWED THEIR **DREAMS** AND YOU... JUST DIDN'T **HAVE** ANY?

WHAT? I'VE GOT **DREAMS,** JO.

I'VE GOT THE **HOUSE,** I'M WORKING FOR **MYSELF,** AND DOING WHAT I **WANT**...THAT'S **EVERYBODY'S** DREAM, ISN'T IT?

WHAT **ELSE** WOULD I WANT?

WELL, TECHNICALLY **JACK** OWNS THE HOUSE. BUT I'LL PAY HIM BACK ANY DAY NOW.

GOT A GOOD FEELING ABOUT SOME **BLUE DEVIL FUNZOS** I PICKED UP...

SOME **WHAT?**

BUT I **AM** SORRY I NEVER FOLLOWED YOU OUT THERE.

I SHOULD'VE COME OUT NOT JUST FOR YOUR WEDDING.

YEAH. THAT WOULD'VE BEEN **NICE,** HAL.

IF YOU CAME OUT SOONER, YOU COULD'VE... PROBABLY TALKED ME OUT OF SOME **REALLY BAD DECISIONS.**

YEAH? LIKE THAT **WEDDING RING?**

YOU KNOW, I COULD PROBABLY GET A GOOD **PRICE** FOR YOU ON THAT--

NO.

THE RING'S NOT FOR SALE. I'M NOT TAKING IT **OFF.**

I'M **NEVER--**

OKAY. WOW. **SORRY.**

THAT WAS...THAT WAS **CLEARLY** IN **BAD TASTE...**

IT'S **FINE.** IT'S...COAST CITY WASN'T **GOOD** FOR ME, IS ALL.

LONG STORY.

I REALLY **AM** SORRY, JO.

WE'RE **FRIENDS,** AND...AND I WASN'T **THERE.**

I'LL MAKE IT UP TO YOU **NEXT TIME,** OKAY?

SURE, HAL.

NEXT TIME.

JORDAN!
GO!
WHAT? NO, I CAN'T--I CAN'T JUST LEAVE YOU--
YOU'RE BLOCKING THE EXIT, YOU MORON! BACK UP!
RIGHT--
THROUGH THE DOOR! UP THE STAIRS! MOVE IT!
BDAM
I'LL KEEP HIM BUSY.
BDAM BDAM

GAAAHH!

SIR?

ARE... ARE YOU *OKAY?*

YOUR *VITALS* ARE SPIKING, MR. HAMMOND. IF YOU NEED TO TAKE A *BREAK--*

NO!

YOU'D *LIKE* THAT, WOULDN'T YOU? ME LOOKING *WEAK?*

YOU TRY SEEING SOMEONE FIRE A GUN *RIGHT INTO YOUR FACE!*

TRY IT, SWEETHEART!

WHO'S GOT A GUN? HUH?

SIR, *PLEASE--*

--WE DON'T KNOW *HOW* THE MENTO DEVICE RESPONDS TO *EXTREME STRESS--*

NOBODY'S STRESSED! *NOBODY!*

I JUST GOT *STARTLED,* THAT'S ALL!

I JUST GOT...

...WHERE *ARE* THEY?

UHHR?

WHY DID IT *STOP...?*

I TOLD YOU. THERE'S A *MIND* DIRECTING THAT THING. SOMEBODY WHO GETS DISTRACTED WHEN YOU *FIRE* AT THEM.

I FIGURED I COULD MAKE 'EM FLINCH.

AND IF YOU'D BEEN *WRONG?*

I'D BE *DEAD.* BUT MAYBE *YOU* WOULDN'T BE.

AND I GUESS I STILL *CARE* ABOUT THAT...

"...BUT I WISH YOU'D GIVEN ME BACK THE RING."

KROOMM

I MEAN, DON'T *YOU?* YOU WOULDN'T BE *IN* THIS SITUATION--

NO, I'D BE IN A WHOLE *DIFFERENT* SITUATION. I'D BE INSIDE THE *GREEN LANTERN* WITH *JOHN,* AND *GUY*...AND THEIR WEIRD *CULT.*

SURE, ME *TOO.* AND MAYBE A FEW MORE PEOPLE WOULD BE *ALIVE.*

I KNOW *I* WISH THAT.

...IT DOESN'T MATTER. I *DIDN'T* GIVE IT BACK.

I COULDN'T TAKE IT OFF.

I TOOK *MINE* OFF. I *SOLD* IT. FELT *GOOD.*

IT FELT LIKE *CLOSURE.*

YEAH. I CAN SEE THAT.

BUT THAT'S *WHY* I COULDN'T--

WAIT. *STOP.*

I DON'T HEAR HIM COMING UP THE *STAIRS.*

IS HE EVEN COMING *AFTER* US...?

KRAKOOM

...

I DIDN'T *WANT* CLOSURE.

LIKE A *BOMB* GOING OFF...

STAY ON *TASK,* SIMON. IF YOU SEE YOUR OWN FACE, YOU *DIE.*

IT'S LIKE THEY SAY ABOUT *PLANE CRASHES...*

...SECURE YOUR *OWN* MASK *FIRST.*

I'M *SORRY,* KARI. I SHOULD'VE BEEN A BETTER PARTNER.

I'LL BE BACK FOR YOU.

"I WANTED TO *FEEL* IT."

THE **WEIGHT** OF IT, HEAVY AS LEAD. I WANTED THAT **WITH** ME. **PART** OF ME.

ALL MY **SINS,** ALL MY **MISTAKES.** ALL THE **PAIN**--WHAT I **FELT,** WHAT I **CAUSED.**

I WANTED TO **FEEL IT,** CAM.

I CAN FEEL IT **NOW.**

AND IT **HURTS.**

BUT IT'S **MINE.** IT'S **MY** PAIN.

IT'S MY **LIFE.**

THE BAD, THE GOOD, **EVERYTHING I AM** IS IN **THIS RING...**

WHOOMM

...AND NOBODY TAKES THAT AWAY.

JO, WAIT-- SOMEONE'S *IN* THERE--

CAM SAID. SOMEONE'S ***CONTROL-LING*** IT.

SOMEONE WHO MURDERED ***KARI.*** SOMEONE WHO WAS SENT TO KILL US ***ALL***--JUST LIKE ***GOLDFACE.***

AND THEY'RE GONNA GET WHAT GOLDFACE ***GOT!***

THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT.

SOMEONE'S *IN* THERE.

AAARRGHH!

YEAH! EAT IT, MULLEIN!

YOU'RE GONNA BEG TO TELL ME WHAT YOU KNOW--

SIR, PLEASE-- THE ECG READINGS!

YOU'RE IN DANGER--

IT'S FINE, DOCTOR.

LET THE MAN WORK.

JO...?

I'M OKAY. I'M OKAY.

BUT WHOEVER'S INSIDE THIS MONSTER... I'M TAKING YOU DOWN--

UP.

101

WE HELP THEM *UP.*

THERE'S SOMEONE *IN* THERE.

TRAPPED.

HAL...?

I CAN FEEL THEM.

SOMEBODY... SOMEBODY WAS *FORCED* INTO THIS.

WHOEVER'S HUNTING US WANTED A *TOMAR*... BUT...

...BUT THE BLACK STAR *ITSELF* IS TOMAR.

ANOMALY.

WHAT DID THE ABIN SUR *WANT?*

WHAT IS CHAOTIC ACTION, JO?

HAL, YOU'RE-- YOU'RE NOT MAKING *SENSE.*

I CAN'T FIGHT *BOTH* OF YOU...

IT'S NOT ABOUT FIGHTING.

ACTION WITHOUT THOUGHT... MAYBE IT'S VIOLENCE. MAYBE IT'S HATE AND CRUELTY AND BLIND OBEDIENCE. IT ***COULD*** BE THOSE THINGS... IF YOU ***TWISTED*** IT...

OR IT COULD BE SOMETHING ***ELSE.***

SOMETHING LIKE ***LOVE.***

BE FREE.

NO!

OH, YOU MAGENTA &*£%--YOU'RE DEAD!

YOUR WHOLE FAMILY'S DEAD!

WHAT HAPPENED...?

MASSIVE POWER SURGE. LOOKS LIKE THE LOCAL GRID IS DOWN.

AND IN ADDITION... WE'VE LOST ALL CONTACT WITH THE OBSIDIAN CREATURE. ACCORDING TO THE FINAL READINGS WE HAVE, IT NO LONGER EXISTS.

SHAME.

OH, IT'S A SHAME? IS THAT ALL YOU'VE GOT TO SAY, SWEETHEART?

BECAUSE I MEANT WHAT I SAID! I MEANT EVERY DAMN WORD OF IT!

GET ME FLORIDA!

HAVE YOU EVER SUFFERED?

MAYBE IT'S ALL ONE THING. MAYBE WE'RE ALL...

TODD RICE?

YOU *KNOW* THIS GUY?

HE RAN THE *BAR* BACK HOME.

I THOUGHT HE WAS DEAD.

GIVE IT *TIME.* THE GREEN POWER'S BEING *VERY* STRANGE AROUND HIM--DON'T THINK HE'S IN GOOD SHAPE.

HAL... WHAT THE HELL DID YOU JUST *DO...?*

HEY!

AGENT *BAZ.* NICE OF YOU TO JOIN US.

AND PROTECTED AGAINST THE C.I.A.'S *INSIDIOUS MIND-RAYS,* TOO. CONSCIENTIOUS MAN.

COME *ON,* CAM. *SHINY ALUMINUM FOIL?* YOU KNOW WHAT A *RISK* I JUST TOOK FOR YOU?

LOOK, I WANTED TO *FLANK* IT, SO I TOOK THE *BACK* STAIRS. THE ONES THAT COME UP *BEHIND THE BUILDING.*

SO I WENT *OUTSIDE...* AND...

WELL, THERE'S SOMETHING OUT THERE YOU NEED TO *SEE.*

RIGHT *NOW.*

...

WHAT AM I LOOKING AT, JO?

YOU KNOW AS MUCH AS I DO. HELL, YOU MIGHT KNOW ***MORE*** THAN I DO.

THAT'S WHAT LANDED ON ***EVERGREEN.***

THAT'S THE ***GREEN LANTERN.***

WHY IS IT ***HERE...?***

"LANTERN" IS A POOR ***TRANSLATION,*** TOMAR JO.

A ***BETTER*** WORD, IN YOUR LANGUAGE...

...IS GUN.

ANYWAY. I'M GOING TO GO KILL MOGO WITH IT.

COMING?

TO BE CONTINUED

LOBO

#1 PREVIEW

Story SKOTTIE YOUNG
Art JORGE CORONA
Colors JEAN-FRANCOIS BEAULIEU
Lettering NATE PIEKOS of Blambot™

♪ MAYBE IT'S JUST THE WAY THE STARS LIGHT YOUR FACE... ♪

♪ ...OR THE SOUND YOU MAKE WHEN YOU'RE FEELIN' NO PAIN... ♪

♪ ...EITHER WAY I KNOW IT MAKES ME WANT TO PUT A CLIP OF SHELLS UP IN THE JAMMIE... ♪

♪ ...GIVE IT A SQUEEZE AND SEND A FEW... ♪

CHUG 'N' SLUG

SOMEWHERE ALONG THE OUTER LIP OF COSMIC ROUTE 67.

THE CHUG 'N' SLUG SPACE PUB.

♪ ...STRAIGHT THROUGH YOUR BRAIN! SO COME ON MOTHERFRAGGER, COME ON MOTHER-FRAGGER... ♪

CHUG 'N' SLUG

♪ COME ON MOTHER-FRAGGER, LET'S HOEDOWN!! ♪

IT'S BASICALLY JUST YOUR AVERAGE LOWLIFE SCUMBAG-FILLED **PUB**...BUT YOU KNOW, IN **SPACE**.

EXIT

SPACE BATHROOM

SPACE BAR

SPACE POOL

HIYA, PAL, YOU DRINKING OR WORKING?

I SUPPOSE I'M *WORKIN'* ON *DRINKIN'*.

THEN I SUPPOSE I CAN HELP YA WITH THAT. PICK YA POISON.

GIMME A QUADRUPLE AXLE GREASE STRAIGHT UP. AND IF YA GOT ANY--

HA HAA HAA HA HAA HA HA

HAA HA HAA HA HAA HA

WHAT'S GOT THESE *CRATERBILLIES* BUSTIN' THEIR SOON-TO-BE-ON-THE-OUTSIDE-INSTEAD-OF-THE-INSIDE GUTS?

ASK ME ABOUT BOUNTY

IT'S THAT NEW MOVIE, *MURDER MOUTH AND FISTY CLAWS.*

FISTY CLAUS?! WHAT IS IT, SOME KINDA CHRISTMAS FLICK?

NOPE. ONE OF THOSE *ANTIHERO MEN IN TIGHTS ORDEALS.* IT'S BEEN PLAYING ON A CONSTANT LOOP FOR WEEKS. THEY CAN'T GET ENOUGH OF IT.

CHUG CHUG

WHAT THE *FRAG* IS AN *ANTIHERO?*

TO BE CONTINUED IN LOBO #1

ON SALE IN MARCH!

DC NEXT LEVEL

THE WONDER WAR BEGINS IN

WONDER WOMAN #31

ALL HAIL THE MATRIARCH

Written by
TOM KING
Art by
DANIEL SAMPERE
ON SALE IN MARCH

ALL IN

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THE MATRIARCH

INTERVIEW WITH TOM KING

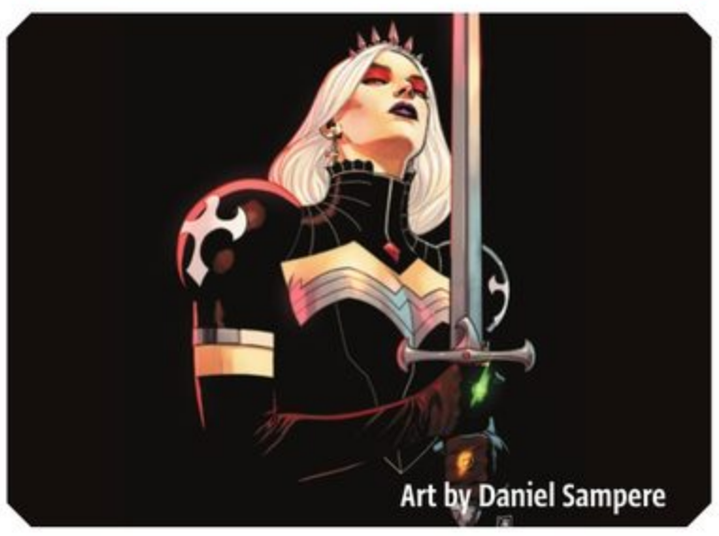
The Matriarch has arrived in the pages of *Wonder Woman*, and she's here to change everything. Superstar writer Tom King reveals Diana's most ambitious villain yet, a royal force of nature with power to topple gods and heroes alike. As "The Wonder War" begins, this future-born conqueror promises an epic showdown that will redefine the Amazing Amazon's legacy.

What can you tell us about the creation of the Matriarch?

From the beginning my brilliant artist, Daniel Sampere, and I wanted to create a huge *Wonder Woman* villain that would be the focus of our arc. We very cleverly put her origin story on the very first page of the series, and nobody noticed, which was fun! We took 25 issues of story leading up to the launch of this character who is the pivotal villain of the whole series, and her name is the Matriarch.

Can you share a bit about the character's design?

Daniel's design is perfect. I wanted her to look like an evil princess, or to have that sort of royalty to her. This look of "I've inherited the world and I can do anything."



Art by Daniel Sampere

How do you craft a villain worthy of Wonder Woman's legacy?

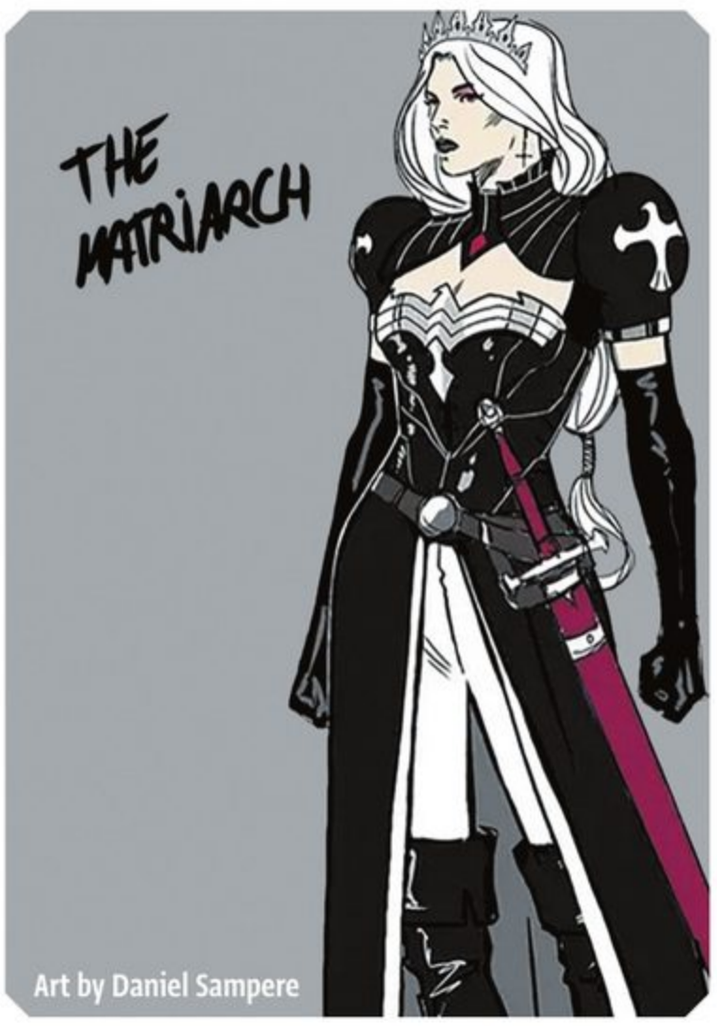
It's my chance to do a Lex Luthor. My chance to do a Joker. That's who the Matriarch is. People who are reading *Wonder Woman* today need an experience as big as the people who were reading *Batman* in the '30s or '40s. They deserve huge comics that aren't just looking backward, but looking forward.

Art by Jorge Fornés

What you started to see in issue #25, the big launch of this character, is she exists in the future. I was sort of inspired by the comics of my youth, where the great villains came from the future. In the future, she has left Themyscira, has conquered Earth, and has killed the Justice League. When you see each of their deaths, their last words to the Matriarch before they succumb to her total power are "Wonder Woman," who's the last hope against this villain.

What can fans expect as we head toward "The Wonder War"?

There's a lot more to come. We've been building on this. We created this character called the Sovereign, who may or may not be her father. You see her birth and the birth of Trinity around the same time. These two babies who start together becoming the greatest of adversaries in the future will be the driving force behind the comic. I couldn't be more excited for where this is going.



Art by Daniel Sampere

DON'T MISS THE EPIC START OF "THE WONDER WAR" IN *WONDER WOMAN* #31, ON SALE IN MARCH!

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